

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00809 211301Z
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 DHA-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06
PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 /066 W
-----026446 211305Z /43

R 210900Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5997
AMEMBASSY LISBON
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0809

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SPOP, UNHCR, SREF, MZ, PO, US
SUBJECT: EXPELLEES FROM MOZAMBIQUE

REF: (A) STATE 117048, (B) LISBON 3814, (C) MAPUTO 0704

1. PORTUGUESE CHARGE MONTEIRO PORTUGAL CALLED ON ME JUNE 20, REPORTEDLY ON INSTRUCTION FROM HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY, TO ENQUIRE IF USG COULD ASSIST THE MOZAMBIKAN EXPELLEES IN PORTUGAL IN ANY WAY. I TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON AND LISBON THAT HE HAD CALLED, BUT SAID THIS WAS A MATTER MORE APPROPRIATELY DISCUSSED WITH OUR EMBASSY IN LISBON.

2. THE PORTUGUESE EMBASSY ESTIMATES THAT BETWEEN 4 OR 5 THOUSAND PEOPLE WERE AFFECTED BY THE EXPULSION DECREE, THE BULK OF THEM BONAFIDE PORTUGUESE. HOWEVER, HE SAID THERE WERE SOME, NUMBERING IN "THE HUNDREDS," WHO HAD OBTAINED PORTUGUESE PASSPORTS FRAUDULENTLY, AND A THIRD GROUP, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00809 211301Z

NUMBERING PERHAPS A FEW DOZENS, WHO HAD RENOUNCED THEIR MOZAMBIKAN CITIZENSHIP, INTENDING TO APPLY FOR PORTUGUESE CITIZENSHIP, BUT AT THE TIME OF THE EXPULSION DECREE HAD NOT IN FACT DONE SO.

3. CHARGE PORTUGAL SAID THAT ALL BUT A COUPLE OF HUNDRED OF THE EXPELLEES HAD ALREADY DEPARTED MOZAMBIQUE, MOST OF

THEM TRAVELING TO PORTUGAL. CONTRARY TO REPORTS IN THE PORTUGUESE PRESS, CHARGE PORTUGAL SAID THAT HE HAD NOT HEARD LOCALLY OF ANY PHYSICAL MALTREATMENT BY THE MOZAMBI-CAN OFFICIAL OF THE DEPARTING EXELLEES.

4. THE PORTUGUESE EMBASSY' S CURRENT ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF PORTUGUESE IN MOZAMBIQUE IS BETWEEN 20 AND 25 THOUSAND. THEY EXPECT 8 TO 10 THOUSAND OF THESE, MOSTLY CONTRACT WORKERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, TO LEAVE MOZAMBIQUE WITHIN THE NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS. AT END OF YEAR, THE EMBASSY EXPECTS THE PORTUGUESE POPULATION IN MOZAMBIQUE TO BE BETWEEN 10 AND 15 THOUSAND.

5. CHARGE PORTUGAL SAYS HE IS SWAMPED WITH WORK AND AS A JUNION OFFICER FEELS OVERWHELMED IN HIS JOB AS CHARGE. HE WILL BE GLAD WHEN HIS AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE ARRIVES, WHICH HE SAID WILL BE IN TWO TO THREE WEEKS. MOZAMBIQUE'S AMB-BASSADOR-DESIGNATE PANGUENE PLANS TO LEAVE FOR LISBON JUST AS SOON AS SUITABLE HOUSING CAN BE FOUND.
DE PREE

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PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00809 211301Z

CONFIDENTIAL

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